

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1-91. (Canceled)

92. (Currently Amended) A method of screening an antibody specifically binding to A $\beta$  for activity in inducing clearance of an amyloid deposit of A $\beta$ , comprising:

combining the amyloid deposit, the antibody, and microglial cells bearing Fc receptors in a medium in vitro, wherein the combining comprises combining the amyloid deposit and the antibody before adding the microglial cells bearing Fc receptors; and

by a series of measurements, monitoring whether a reduction in the amount of the amyloid deposit remaining in the medium occurs, as compared to a baseline measurement, a reduction in the amount of the amyloid deposit indicating the antibody induces phagocytic clearing activity of the microglial cells against the amyloid deposit.

93-96. (Canceled)

97. (Currently Amended) A[[The]] method of screening a monoclonal antibody for activity in inducing clearance of an amyloid deposit of A $\beta$ , comprising:

combining the amyloid deposit, a monoclonal antibody, and microglial cells bearing Fc receptors in a medium in vitro; and

by a series of measurements, monitoring whether a reduction in the amount of the amyloid deposit remaining in the medium occurs, as compared to a baseline measurement, a reduction in the amount of the amyloid deposit indicating the monoclonal antibody induces phagocytic clearing activity of the microglial cells against the amyloid[[-]]deposit.

98. (Currently Amended) A[[The]] method of screening a monoclonal antibody for activity in inducing clearance of an amyloid deposit of A $\beta$ , comprising:

combining the amyloid deposit, a monoclonal antibody which binds to an epitope within amino acid residues 1-7 of A $\beta$ , and microglial cells bearing Fc receptors in a medium in vitro; and

by a series of measurements, monitoring whether a reduction in the amount of the amyloid deposit remaining in the medium occurs, as compared to a baseline measurement, a reduction in the amount of the amyloid deposit indicating the monoclonal antibody induces phagocytic clearing activity of the microglial cells against the amyloid deposit.

99. (Canceled)

100. (Currently Amended) A[[The]] method of screening a monoclonal antibody for activity in inducing clearance of an amyloid deposit of A $\beta$ , comprising:

combining the amyloid deposit, a monoclonal antibody, and microglial cells bearing Fc receptors in a medium in vitro, wherein the amyloid deposit is a tissue sample from the brain of an Alzheimer's disease patient or an animal having Alzheimer's pathology; and

by a series of measurements, monitoring whether a reduction in the amount of the amyloid deposit remaining in the medium occurs, as compared to a baseline measurement, a reduction in the amount of the amyloid deposit indicating the monoclonal antibody induces phagocytic clearing activity of the microglial cells against the amyloid[[-]]deposit.

101. (New) The method of claim 97, wherein the antibody is a chimeric, humanized or human antibody.

102. (New) The method of claim 97, further comprising screening the antibody in a transgenic animal model predisposed to amyloidogenic disease.